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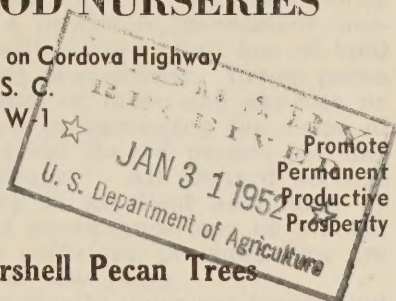
# WATSON'S PECANWOOD NURSERIES

2 miles Southwest of Orangeburg on Cordova Highway

ORANGEBURG, S. C.

Telephone 1391 W-1

Plant  
Proven  
Pecanwood  
Pecantrees



## Planting and Culture, Papershell Pecan Trees

### SUMMARY OF PLANTING DIRECTIONS

1. Stake off holes at least 25 or 30 ft. apart for home plantings, 60 or 70 ft. apart for permanent archards.
2. Dig holes 36" deep, and 12 to 24" wide, BEFORE ARRIVAL OF TREES.
3. MIX THOROUGHLY 3 to 5 lbs. sheep manure with soil to be used (preferably topsoil) in re-filling hole and have ready for use.
4. THOROUGHLY REDAMPEN ROOTS OF TREES IN BALE IMMEDIATELY AFTER ARRIVAL OF TREES.
5. Take out one tree at a time from bale, set in hole so ground level (meeting place of "gray" and "brown" bark is 4" to 6" below ground level of edge of hole.)
6. Shovel soil in hole about the roots, adding water as soil is placed in hole. Tamp lightly with shovel handle to stir up thick mud, without damaging roots. Continue, until all of BROWN portion of root-bark is covered, leaving tree in shallow cup or basin.
7. Wrap tree trunk with paper from ground level to near top of tree. Bind with cord, wrapped in spiral direction, and tie securely. KEEP TREE TRUNK WRAPPED TWO (2) YEARS.
8. Keep down all weeds and grass for 3 ft. in every direction from tree, and water well in dry seasons once or twice a week if possible. KEEP FIRE AWAY FROM TREES.

### PRACTICAL PECAN POINTERS

THE SOUTHERN PECAN TREE is one of the finest combinations of beauty, strength and productivity in the entire world. It grows tall and shapely, with graceful arches, leafing out fully in hot June and retaining its foliage until well into Fall, when heavy crops of delicious nuts may be harvested. Indeed, this tree offers the ultimate in a combination of shade and fruit! Deeply-rooted, it offers almost unshakeable resistance to the winds; and one might well say, when once a tree is well established, "It lives forever." George Washington planted pecan trees that are still growing at Mt. Vernon. And foresters tell us that there are pecan trees NOW PRODUCING in the rich delta of the Mississippi that were bearing nuts when COLUMBUS LANDED IN AMERICA!

PECAN PRODUCTION ties in well with farm activities. Besides the beneficial and beautiful shade the trees afford, they may be mutually beneficial in poultry, cattle, and hog raising. Pecans may be interplanted with peaches, pears, plums, or other fruits, and the fruit-trees taken out after they have become unproductive. Pecan orchards may be successfully interplanted with cotton, corn, or truck, and only





a strip may be left for the trees, gradually widening the tree rows as the trees grow. Pecan growing can be a profitable, permanent business, and a farmer can "grow into it" with a very small loss of land while the trees are reaching commercial productivity. Large pecan orchards can be handled with a minimum of labor and expense by use of machinery to cultivate and to aid in harvesting the crops of nuts. We often shake down 1,000 to 4,000 lbs. of pecans per day with our tractor-operated "pecan tree shaker". All orchard acreage may be well utilized for winter grazing to excellent advantage by proper use of legumes and grasses. And pecan trees may be planted in permanent pasture, if soil moisture is sufficient, provided they are temporarily shielded from stock the first few years.

**ADAPTATION** as a shade tree is practically universal throughout the U. S., but for production of nuts the pecan tree requires temperate to warm climate and fairly long growing season with medium rainfall. Generally, it can be said that it will produce nuts in Tex., Okla., Ky., W. Va., Ark., Md., and states southward and westward, including Va., N. C., S. C., Ga., and Fla.

**SOILS** best suited are mildly acid, fertile, fairly well-drained, high in organic content (gray, dark, or chocolate-colored topsoil) and underlaid with clay subsoil. Generally, good cotton land will produce good pecans. Avoid sandy soils with no "bottom" (clay subsoil); also avoid gummy, low-lying lands usually under water or continually boggy, where water table comes nearer than 30" to top of soil; and avoid "new-ground" for first few years after clearing on account of termites or "root-lice". Apply little or no lime, so that pH is kept to 6.0 or less, to avoid "rosette" or zinc starvation symptoms. Pecans are close kin to hickories and "pig-nuts" or swamp pecans, and where these thrive, pecans can usually be grown successfully. They are native to the "second bottoms" of the Lower Mississippi and its tributaries, on lands that are subject to occasional overflow.

**PREPARATION FOR PLANTING.** IN HOME PLANTINGS, where shade is of equal or greater importance than fruit production, trees may be spaced 25 or 30 ft. apart. Care should be taken to avoid planting near large trees or large growing shrubs, which might sap most of soil moisture from the young trees. Also, pecans demand a great deal of sunlight for proper development and regular production. Some excellent locations around the homesite are: in front of the home, on either or both sides of walk; near the drive, affording pleasant parking shade in summer; near the western side of the home; in dog-yards, chicken-yards, or spaced throughout gardens. Flower-beds may be planted around the bases of young trees if ample fertility and soil water are provided.

**ORCHARD SITE** land should be thoroughly plowed or disked, then harrowed, so that there is no danger from fire, and laying out of rows will be much easier. Trees may be spaced at least 60 x 60 ft., which will take 14 trees per acre in equilateral triangles, or 12 per acre if planted in squares. If land is very fertile, plant 70 x 70 ft., which will take 10 per acre in triangles, or 9 per acre in squares. Trees may be planted along field or property lines, or may be aligned along both sides of roads or lanes. They make excellent windbreaks for large fields, and beautiful approaches to a homesite or other place of natural interest. If land is rolling, and terraced, trees may be planted on terrace beds to good advantage.

**DIG HOLES BEFORE ARRIVAL OF TREES** whenever possible, so that they may be planted with least possible delay. Holes should be approximately 3 ft. deep. Width of holes depends on actual size of





trees. Small trees, 2-3 ft., may be planted in post-holes 12" wide, but trees 5-6 ft. require holes about 20" wide. Larger trees need slightly wider holes, the general rule being for the hole to be sufficiently wide to allow lateral or side roots to be spread out naturally. A good plan is to dig holes with an ordinary post-hole digger, using a sharpened heavy piece of steel axle or sharpened pipe or "crowbar" to soften the hole when clay is reached in the digging. Then the "post-hole" may be widened easily with ordinary shovel to the size desired. In digging, it is suggested that the topsoil be laid on a separate pile from clay, as it is preferable to use topsoil only in replanting. Mix topsoil thoroughly with 3 to 5 lbs. of good mild organic fertilizer (sheep manure, bone meal, or pulverized dried cow manure) per tree. (Very old, dried, and well pulverized COW COMPOST, well-rotted and free of trash, is excellent.)

IMMEDIATELY UPON ARRIVAL OF TREES, thoroughly redampen the roots by punching hole in bale of trees just above the roots and pouring several buckets of water into the package, allowing it to run downward. Avoid exposure of roots to direct sunlight or extreme (freezing) cold or to heat, and plant as soon as possible.

PLANTING MAY BE DONE BEST by taking out one tree at a time. In planting an orchard of some size we usually employ several 50-gal. barrels filled with water, and placed on truck or wagon, some trees being placed in ONE barrel. This affords double advantage of minimum exposure of trees to drying winds and air, and plenty of water for planting process. Set tree in the hole so that the original ground level (where brownish "root bark" ends and grayish "trunk bark" begins) is about 4" to 6" below the level of the edge of hole. Sift in the mixed topsoil, free of trash, and add water; then more soil, more water, tamping gently with shovel handle to work up thick mud without damaging the roots. Continue this, until original root level is reached with mud, and finally sprinkle a little unwatered soil on top, leaving tree in a shallow cup or basin. We do not recommend use of regular commercial mineral or "mixed" fertilizers when trees are planted. Mild organic fertilizers are more expensive, but do not burn the roots.

WRAP THE TRUNK OF EACH TREE after planting, using heavy paper. The paper which comes around the bale of trees shipped from us is especially useful for this purpose. Cut paper into long strips about 3" wide, using heavy scissors or very sharp knife. Then, remove a little soil (about 1") from about base of tree, and bind this paper around the tree trunk, bringing it upwards spirally around tree to within a few inches of top of tree, and then tear off. Then bind wrapping in place near the upper end with cotton cord or binder twine, and wind it DOWN the tree in spiral direction, CROSSING paper spiral, until just above ground level; then tie cord to itself, keeping paper firmly attached to tree.

KEEP TREE TRUNK WRAPPED TWO YEARS, or until tree makes strong terminal shoot growth. This is protection against the destructive "flat-head borer"; it prevents growth of side-shoots, thus heading the tree out higher; it insulates tree against extremes of heat and cold, and protects against rabbit bites. After wrapping is removed, spray tree trunk with heavy Volck (oil emulsion), or fish oil soap, or simply scrub with heavy laundry or "Octagon" soap, to remove any scale insects which might be present.

FERTILIZE WITH COMMERCIAL FERTILIZER during the late winter after first growing season. Good method is to punch several holes about 10 or 12" deep with steel crowbar or pipe about 8" from





tree, and partly fill each hole with complete "field" fertilizer, using as high nitrogen (first figure) as possible. We suggest 7-7-7 or 6-8-6, but any good trunk or commercial mix can be used. Use 1 qt. (2 lbs.) for each year since tree has been set in field, as a general rule, and punch holes as far out as limbs have spread. Fertilizer may be spread on top of ground and then spaded in, care being taken to avoid contact of fertilizer with trunk or main root of tree. However, this method will encourage growth of weeds and grass, and will necessitate more cultivation than will "plugging", described above.

**WATERING TREES** in dry seasons after planting, beginning in mid-March and continuing until September, promotes more growth of trees, but is not ordinarily vitally necessary except in case of the larger sizes of trees or in case of very light, sandy lands. Dishwater, septic outlets or other home waste water is usually fine for them. In newly planted orchards where watering is impracticable, large pasteboard boxes may be flattened out and placed around the base of tree, with just enough soil placed on edges to prevent blowing away, the cardboard being arranged to cup or funnel water in toward the tree. Thus, abundant water is allowed to pass to tree, but weeds and grass are smothered, and no hoeing is necessary.

**PROTECT AND (IF NOT MULCHED AS ABOVE SUGGESTED) CULTIVATE** the trees. It is a good idea to set 3 small posts or slabs around each tree to avoid breakage from plow "singletrees" or livestock. Where stock are allowed to graze around trees, wire may be placed around the trees so that foliage is protected, until trees grow above reach of stock. After that time, cattle ranging under trees in growing season will keep ALL low-growing twigs and foliage very effectively pruned off, as they will eat all leaves within reach.

**ONE PRACTICAL METHOD OF PROTECTION** from mule or tractor cultivation injury in a field is to stick a long piece of lumber "edging" across the tree at an angle, pointed DOWN tree row, and drive well into ground. Then drive another piece of edging in similar manner on opposite side of tree, pointed in opposite directing, or "UP" the row; then tie or bind both pieces of edging and tree together, just where they cross. No mule or tractor driver is apt to risk impaling himself on this "lance" of edging, and if it is sufficiently long, it will be out of reach, anyhow. Crop rows may then be lined up parallel to the tree rows.

**REGULAR CULTIVATION BY HOEING OR PLOWING** is essential, unless growth of other plants is prohibited by some other method. Moderate amounts of well-rotted stable manure or preferably chicken manure may be placed in a band not closer than 6" from base of tree, beginning several days after trees are planted, and may be re-applied at one-month intervals from 20 March to 1 July.

**TREES MAY BEGIN TO BEAR** 1 to 3 years after planting, but larger sizes—and especially some particular varieties—usually bear first. We believe that it is both wise and economical to use as large a tree as the soil and site conditions (and economic conditions) will allow. On extremely dry, sandy soil (no clay, or clay 30" or deeper) do not use trees larger than 6-7 ft., or 7-8 ft. at most; and cut back or prune off about 1/3 of above-ground portion, or "top". It is a very good practice to cut back all sizes, but trees 8-10 ft. and 10-12 ft. should ALWAYS be cut back when planted. These two fine sizes should be used for orchard plantings only where soil moisture and soil organic content are ideal: but they are excellent for use in home and small home-orchard plantings. Under practically all conditions, these sizes should be well watered once or twice a week in dry seasons, March to Sep-





tember of first year, and sometimes second year after planting. When trees make two feet or more of terminal or "shoot" growth, they may be ordinarily be considered to be out of any immediate danger from drought, although watering in dry seasons will always promote better, stronger growth at any time in the first half of summer.

**PROFITABLE BEARING IS YOUR GOAL**, and that depends on **GOOD TREES, OF GOOD VARIETY, PLANTED RIGHT, "THE MAN", AND "THE LAND"**. By proper care and fertilization, help your trees to grow quickly, and produce large, strong frame-works, capable of bearing profitable crops of large, well filled, delicious nuts in 7 to 10 years. Properly set with good healthy trees, and well maintained, your orchard may be productive **INDEFINITELY**.

**SEVERAL VARIETIES** may be planted to insure a good crop every year, as some varieties tend to fruit heavier some years than others. We can choose your varieties for you if you like, provided you give us a description of the soil and surroundings. We harvested and sold at wholesale prices, in the Fall of 1946, from 7½ acres, 7,325 lbs. of high quality pecans, which brought \$3,541.17. "orchard run". These 105 trees, grown in our nurseries, lived 100% when planted in 1926. They have not ever failed to produce heavy, profitable crops since they came into good commercial bearing in the mid-1930's—in fact, Mrs. Watson harvested 8,250 lbs. from them the year the owner entered the armed forces in World War II. This orchard, planted to several good varieties, is **LIVING PROOF THAT IT PAYS TO PLANT GOOD, PROVEN VARIETIES AND TO TAKE CARE OF THEM**.

**ESPECIALLY RECOMMENDED VARIETIES**, in view of our 45 years of actual successful experience with pecans, we consider to be **STUART, DESIRABLE, and CURTIS**. However, all the following are of distinct merit, and have well proven their worth:

✓ **STUART** is the standard Southern pecan variety. It is widely adapted to soil and climatic conditions. Does not require spraying for "Scab" fungus disease (also miscalled "scale") and is generally a favorite with buyer and grower. Although it bears first crops somewhat later than some others, it tends to be a regular, consistent producer of large, medium soft-shelled, good quality nuts. Size of selected nuts about 1¾" long by 1" in diameter, and run about 45 per pound. The most widely planted popular variety in the South. Tree is rather upright in habit of growth, has dark green foliage, medium to large leaves.

✓ **DESIRABLE** is relatively new in our part of the South, but has been outstandingly successful in Ga., Ala., and Miss. for the past 25 years. It produces nuts nearly as large as Stuart, extremely thin-shelled; it **BEGINS BEARING SOON** after planting, and bears very heavy crops. Very resistant to scab disease. An excellent cracking nut, of fine quality kernel. Nuts usually bring Stuart price or better on the market. Tree foliage is medium green, and makes a graceful, globe-shaped tree, especially "desirable" for shade and for production purposes.

✓ **CURTIS** is most widely grown in North Florida, although it has been grown for many years in all parts of the South. It is highly resistant to pecan scab, and is a regular to very heavy producer of very fine quality, medium sized, very thin-shelled nuts, very attractive to shellers and housewives. A very regular cropper, and it will produce nuts on poorest land and under the most adverse conditions of any variety we know, though it responds much better to good care. Ripens about 3 weeks after Stuart. Foliage dark green, leaves fine, graceful, globe-shaped head of tree.

✓ **MASTERPIECE** (also called "Mahan", "Fla. Giant", "Miss. Giant",





and other names). This variety is extremely prolific and very early-bearing, and often sets nuts up to 7 per cluster, truly "giant" in size. It is often said to produce the "largest pecan in the world", and often sets branch-breaking crops of these huge nuts. However, because of its tendency to set such heavy crops, it should be especially well-fed and should be planted where it can have adequate moisture for the best use of the fertilizers applied to it (in abundance) especially potash. If planted on land that is too dry in character, or in especially dry seasons where the crop is excessively heavy, the nuts may not be well-filled, or may be "shy" at the basal end. The nut closely resembles the "Schley" variety, and has an extremely thin shell, medium to good quality kernel, and makes one of the most attractive nuts of all in the shell. Tree of very graceful shape. A very heavy producer of male pollen. Will 'scab' somewhat, and should be given ample light and distance, should not be planted under too humid conditions, or over-fed with nitrogen. Will not require spraying under most S. C. conditions. Requires about 10 days or two weeks longer growing season than Stuart.

✓ **SUCCESS** is a very prolific producer, nearly as large as Stuart, and about the same shell thickness. Kernel a shade darker than Stuart, of good quality. A light "scabber". It is often planted at ratio of 1 to 15 or 20 other trees for its large pollen production, which may aid other varieties to set fruit in some particular years, if other varieties (or seedlings) are not near. Should be planted on S to SW part of the orchard, as all pecan pollen is wind-borne. Does best on rather good to heavy grade land, and should be well-fed, especially in potash.

✓ **SCHLEY** produces perhaps the highest quality nuts, thinnest shelled, of all known varieties. However, it is especially subject to 'scab' disease, and should never be planted in large numbers unless the owner sets out to spray his orchard, a big and expensive job. It scabs worse in the more humid locations and climates, and can be planted to better advantage in the Piedmont or Sandhill regions than along the coast, as a rule. When it reaches bearing size, it should not be heavily fed with nitrogen, as it will "scab" less if vegetative growth is held to a moderate degree. Ordinarily, we recommend that the Schley be omitted entirely in the Low-country; and if it is planted by home orchardists in the Up-country, it should be planted toward the edge of the planting, and on the lightest or poorest soil, and given the best advantage of hill slope for "air drainage". In occasional years when the Spring and Summer rainfall is extremely deficient (as in 1951) the crop of Schleys may be excellent, with little or no spraying. However, the grower should not be deceived by one season's crop, as pecan trees should be considered from the **LONG VIEW**.

**PLANT PECANS FOR PLEASURE, FOR PROFIT, FOR PROTECTION.** Money "grows" on pecan trees—plant, fertilize, cultivate—take care of them, and they will take care of you and of future generations.

**WATSON'S PECANWOOD NURSERIES**

**ORANGEBURG, S. C.**

**(See prices on last sheet)**







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10 to 12 feet Extra Heavy	6.00	Limited Number No further Reductions			

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**Planting directions attached to each bale of trees**

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Orangeburg, S. C.

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